



RUETER-HESS ADVISORY BOARD

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 2026

AGENDA

Friday, August 14, 2026

9:00 AM

**11865 Heirloom Parkway
Parker, CO 80134**

1. Call to Order

- a. Roll Call
- b. Approval of the Agenda

2. Approval of Minutes

Attachments: [Unofficial Minutes from July 10, 2026](#)

3. Citizen Comment

- a. Request from Susan Peet - Sailing
- b. Request from Skip Evans - E-Foil

4. Discussion and Action Items

- a. Rueter-Hess Update July 2026

Attachments: [Rueter-Hess Update July 2026](#)

- b. Rueter-Hess Budget Update July 2026

Attachments: [Rueter-Hess Budget Update July 2026](#)

5. Other Business and Discussion

- a. Project Updates

- b. Partner Day Update

6. Adjournment

The Next Regular Meeting Will be Held on September 11, 2026 @ 9:00 a.m.

www.douglas.co.us

MEETING DATE: August 14, 2026

ATTACHMENTS:

Unofficial Minutes from July 10
2026



RUETER-HESS ADVISORY BOARD

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2026

MINUTES

Friday, July 10, 2026

9:00 AM

9651 S Quebec Street
Littleton, CO 80120

1. Call to Order

Mary Colton, Town of Parker called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. and asked for a roll call.

a. Roll Call

PRESENT

Board Member Austin Good

Alternate Marne Hansen

Board Member Mary Colton

Alternate Amy Knopp

Board Member Marcus Graves

EXCUSED

Board Member Bill Wasserman.

Board Member Jeff Brauer

Board Member Steve Shoultz

Alternate Michael Lawson

Alternate Seth Hoffman

Alternate Larry Nimmo

STAFF

PRESENT

Ron Redd, PWSD, General Manager

Jason Trujillo, Ranger Supervisor

Celeste Deal, County Liaison

b. Approval of the Agenda

Mary Colton, Town of Parker, asked for comments or a motion to approve the July 10, 2026 Rueter-Hess Advisory Board Agenda.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Austin Good

SECONDER: Marne Hansen

AYES: Good, Hansen, Colton, Knopp, Graves

EXCUSED: Wasserman, Brauer, Shoultz, Lawson, Hoffman, Nimmo

2. Approval of Minutes

Mary Colton, Town of Parker, asked for comments or a motion to approve the June 12, 2026 Rueter Hess Advisory Board Meeting Minutes.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Austin Good

SECONDER: Marne Hansen

AYES: Good, Hansen, Colton, Knopp, Graves

EXCUSED: Wasserman, Brauer, Shoultz, Lawson, Hoffman, Nimmo

3. Citizen Comment

Marne Hanson, Member, commented that she received feedback from a member of the public expressing concerns regarding fees, reservations, and access at Rueter-Hess Reservoir.

Staff shared informal research of public perception and ratings from various website data. The RAB discussed findings and the RAB's alignment with recreation and priorities for water quality.

4. Discussion and Action Items

a. Bylaws

The RAB discussed bylaws. The County Attorney advised that continuing revisions would require reopening and renegotiating the IGA. No action was taken.

b. Rueter-Hess Update June 2026

The Rueter-Hess Advisory Board and staff had a question-and-answers session. Items discussed included visitor feedback, operations, reservoir safety practices, rules education, and public perception and customer service.

c. Rueter-Hess Budget June 2026

The Rueter-Hess Budget update was presented by Amy Knopp, Manager, Rueter-Hess Recreation.

Items discussed included salary savings, dock procurement timing, and repairs needed for the shared boat ramp.

5. Other Business and Discussion

a. Partner Days 2026

Partner Days were discussed by the RAB. Items discussed included pass distribution, registration totals, card design, printing quantities, and possibilities to transitioning future partner days to pass-only distribution.

All agreed they would like their unused day to be transitioned to passes this year and both days to passes for 2027 to lessen public impact and give citizens more flexibility for use.

b. Docks Update

A docks update was presented by Amy Knopp, Manager, Rueter-Hess Recreation. Items discussed included procurement delays associated with software conversion and implementation timing.

c. Incline Trailhead Update

An update on the Incline Trailhead was presented by Amy Knopp, Manager, Rueter-Hess Recreation.

Items discussed included the plan for a demonstration garden, roadway improvements, parking lots, picnic areas with shade, and an amphitheater for classes.

d. Dash Across the Dam Debrief

Ron Redd, Parker Water and Sanitation reported on the Dash Across the Dam Event that took place on June 20, 2026. The Town of Parker was congratulated for a successful well run event.

6. Adjournment

Mary Colton, Town of Parker adjourned the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

The Next Regular Meeting Will be Held on Friday, August 14, 2026 @ 9:00 am.

www.douglas.co.us

MEETING DATE: August 14, 2026

ATTACHMENTS:

Rueter-Hess Update July 2026

Memorandum

Date: August 5, 2026
To: Douglas County Advisory Boards
From: Amy Knopp, Manager of Rueter-Hess Recreation
CC: Steven Shoultz, CPRE, Director of Parks and Recreation
Subject: **Rueter-Hess Recreation Update July 2026**

RUETER-HESS UPDATES

4th of July Weekend at Rueter-Hess

Summer has officially arrived, and the Independence Day weekend made that unmistakably clear. This year, more people chose to celebrate at the Reservoir. While visitation grew by 12% this year, the property had plenty of water for paddleboarding, kayaking, and canoeing. Over the four-day period, Rangers proactively assisted 16 visitors to ensure they had a fun, safe day on the water.

Life jacket requirements played an important role in keeping visitors safe during wind events, providing an essential layer of protection and contributing to a successful and incident free weekend.

Rueter-Hess Reservoir continues to grow in popularity as an angling destination, with significant increases in visitor use. Adult angler participation is up 74%, and youth fishing has risen an impressive 67% compared to last year.



Watercraft at Rueter-Hess Reservoir

Surf'SUP Hosts Colorado Academy Summer Camp

Rueter-Hess Reservoir is a popular venue for special events and summer camps. Each summer, Mindy and Nathan Heimer, the owners of Surf'SUP, lead Colorado Academy's Summer Camp by providing paddleboarding equipment and expertise for the program. Each week, the campers spend about four hours on the water learning paddleboarding skills. Instruction includes safe maneuvering techniques and basic rescue practices. Campers also meet the Park Rangers to better understand their role as knowledgeable and supportive resources. This partnership helps young participants build confidence and awareness in outdoor recreation. The collaboration with Colorado Academy, Surf'SUP, and the Park Rangers has strengthened community engagement at the reservoir. Overall, the program successfully teaches water safety while encouraging youth to enjoy our natural spaces responsibly.



Youth Camp at Rueter-Hess Reservoir

Dive Rescue Training Enhances Public Safety at Rueter-Hess Reservoir

On July 20, 22, and 24, Park Rangers partnered with South Metro Fire Rescue to host dive rescue trainings at Rueter-Hess Reservoir. Six dive teams practiced coordinated responses to water emergencies, reviewed communication protocols, and conducted simulated rescue scenarios.

This collaborative training strengthens emergency preparedness, improves coordination among first responders, and helps ensure a faster, more effective response to water emergencies, enhancing safety for everyone who visits the reservoir.



South Metro Dive Rescue Equipment

Heat Safety Awareness on the Rueter-Hess Trail System

With a total of 44,042 trail visitors recorded from January through June this year, Rueter-Hess Reservoir



Hiker at Rueter-Hess

continues to experience significant use of its trail system during the summer months. As temperatures rise, Rangers reminded guests to carry an adequate supply of water, wear lightweight and sun-protective clothing, apply sunscreen, and plan hikes during the cooler morning or evening hours to reduce the risk of heat-related illness. Rangers are equipped with first aid training and experience in recognizing and responding to heat-related medical emergencies and maintain radio communication to quickly coordinate with South Metro Fire Rescue or Douglas County emergency responders when additional medical assistance is needed. Through proactive patrols, public education, and emergency preparedness, the Park Ranger program remains committed to promoting a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone visiting the Rueter-Hess Reservoir trail system throughout the summer.

Keeping Trails

Safe by Controlling Poison Hemlock

The Parks Rangers discovered Poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*). Colorado State University reports that it is a potentially dangerous noxious weed for people and wildlife, along the Coyote Run Loop trail at Rueter-Hess Reservoir. The Colorado Department of Agriculture reports that Poison hemlock is designated as a "List C" species on the Colorado Noxious Weed Act. Plants touching the Coyote Loop Trail were physically removed.

While it may resemble harmless plants such as Queen Anne's lace, wild carrot, or parsley, it is highly toxic when touched or ingested. The plant can grow up to 8 feet tall and is recognizable by its purple spotted stems, lack of hairs, and delicate white blooms. Its leaves have a lacy appearance that often leads to misidentification.



Picture of Poison Hemlock

Visitors should avoid contact with any part of this plant. The discovery underscores the importance of staying on designated trails. Remaining on marked routes protects both visitors and the surrounding ecosystem. Rangers remain committed to educating the public and ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience for all.

To learn more about Poison hemlock, visit [Colorado State University's website](#) or [Colorado Department of Agriculture's website](#).

Operational Updates

The July 4th holiday period saw a significant increase in angler visitation activity. Rangers recorded 145 adult anglers and 71 youth anglers early in the holiday period, followed by 91 adults and 42 youth anglers later in the weekend. This represents approximately a 60 percent increase in adult anglers and a 70 percent increase in youth anglers compared to last year. The Holiday weekend had some water assists, but rangers did a great job of keeping it uneventful.

Weekend afternoons throughout July were marked by frequent inclement weather events, leading to elevated water-assist activity. Rangers completed 32 assists, supporting 37 individuals on the water. This marks more than a 350% increase from last year's assistance numbers. All individuals were wearing their life jackets. Life jacket enforcement remained a primary focus due to statewide water-related incidents and increased on-water risk.

The number of red flag days slowed mowing operations. When mowing was conducted, staff notified South Metro Fire when mowing and ensured a charged, current fire extinguisher was on board to maintain fire safety during operations.

Safety equipment was added to both the primary and backup safety boats. This ensures all boats remain fully equipped without the need to transfer gear between boats.

Rangers collaborated with South Metro Fire during dive rescue training. Discussions focused on joint operational procedures for a major incident at the reservoir. Continued coordination with South Metro Fire is planned.

Park Ranger Supervisor Jason Trujillo will be retiring in early August. Jason began his service in June 2023 and is grateful for the opportunity to work alongside the team. He wishes continued success for the reservoir and all staff.

SPECIAL USE CALENDAR

Upcoming Calendar of Events 2026		
Date	Special Event	Location
6/1/2026 to 8/14/2026	Avid4 Adventure Summer Season Day Camp	Reservoir
8/21/2026	Douglas County Sheriff's Office	Reservoir
9/18/2026	Denver Audubon/Denver Field Ornithologist	Reservoir
RAB /Partner Days		Location
8/9/2026	Castle Pines Partner Day	Reservoir
8/15/2026	Parker Partner Day	Reservoir

8/16/2026	Castle Rock Partner Day	Reservoir
	Partner Programing	Location
8/25/2026	PWSD hosting Public Works Op's Appreciation Lunch	Reservoir
	Surf'SUP Vendor Programing	Location
8/30/2026	Surf'SUP Worship on the Water	Reservoir
9/27/2026	Surf'SUP Worship on the Water	Reservoir
	Volunteer Events/Days	Location
8/7/2026	Shoreline Cleanup	Reservoir
8/16/2026	Geocache Group 50 People	Incline/ Rocky Outcropping
9/24/2026	70 Ranch View Middle School, Shoreline Cleanup	Reservoir

RECREATION STATS (UPDATED 8/05/26)

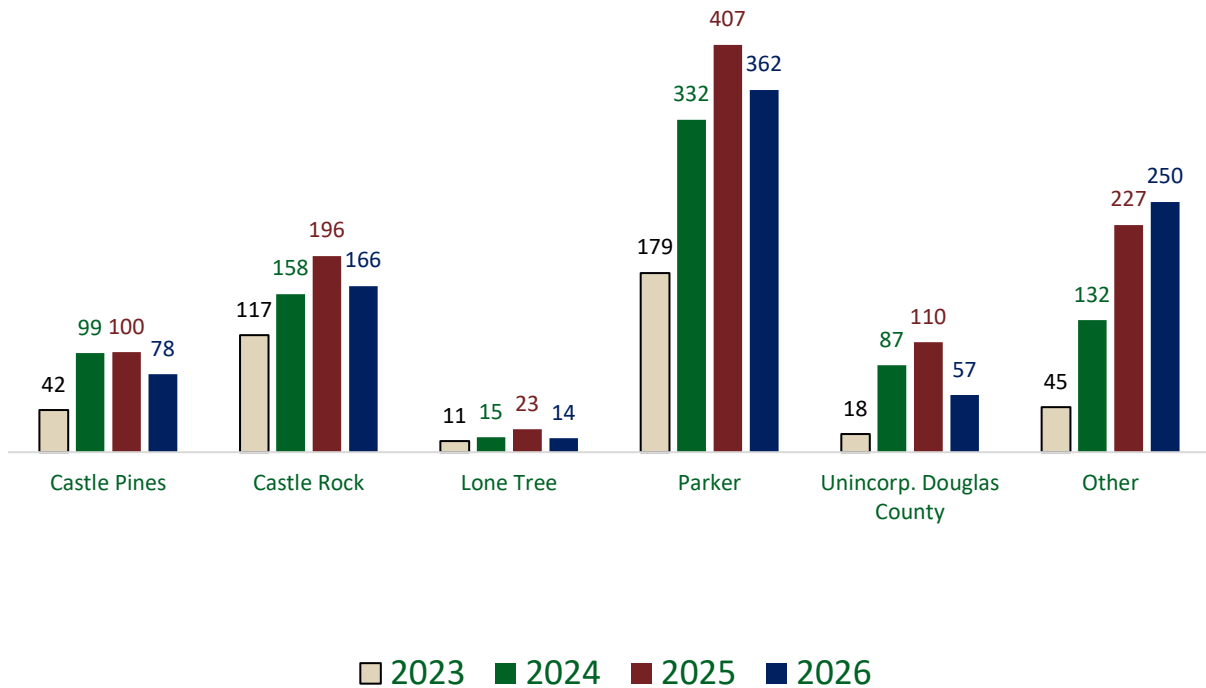
Visitation	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	2026 Total
Reservations Made	30	44	218	206	459	712	1002	2,826
Reservoir Visitors	66	102	393	376	845	1769	2333	6,204
RHR Incline (Reported Monthly)	4520	5580	5883	6660	7175	7716	6491	44,025
RHR Coyote Run Loop (Reported Monthly)	668	904	1027	1034	1136	1295	980	7,044
RHR Newlin Gold Trail (Reported Monthly)	28	59	76	63	102	116	92	536
Trails Visitors	5216	6543	6986	7757	8413	9127	7563	51,605
Visitors	5282	6645	7379	8133	9258	10896	9896	57,809
Special Use	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	2026
Special Event /Use	0	0	0	0	0	13	9	22
Special Event/Use Attendance	0	0	0	0	0	603	146	749
Special Activities/Events	0	0	2	1	0	14	10	27
People Attending Special Activities/Events	0	0	5	0	0	874	232	1111
Fishing	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	2026
Adult Anglers	27	18	218	209	327	353	366	1565
Youth Anglers	3	6	60	63	84	122	184	555
Total Anglers	30	24	278	272	411	475	550	2120
Watercraft Inspections	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	2026
Watercraft Inspections	0	0	16	74	449	789	1199	2732
Public Safety	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	2026
Trail Assist	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Trail Rescue	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Trail Assist/Rescue	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Water Assist Event	0	0	2	2	2	42	29	81
Water Rescue Event	0	0	0	0	1	13	3	17
Water Assist/Rescue Total Events	0	0	2	2	3	55	32	98
Water Assists (Needed Help)	0	0	2	3	4	42	37	92
Water Rescues	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	5
Total Water Assist/Rescue	0	0	2	3	5	42	41	97
EMS Requested	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
People Helped By EMS	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	13
Overdue Groups	1	1	3	0	0	1	9	15
Overdue People	2	2	9	0	6	2	22	43

RULES AND REGULATIONS STATS (UPDATED 7/31 /26)

Rules and Regulations	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Total Violation by Type
Class III E-Bikes	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	3
Dogs Off Leash	1	1	3	3	3	5	0	19
Dogs On Shore	0	0	1	1	2	2	3	7
Fishing	0	2	5	4	5	6	4	26
Off Trail Use	0	1	2	5	8	7	13	31
Watercraft Closed Area	0	0	2	3	4	7	19	21
PFD	0	1	3	2	5	11	35	33
Swimming Prohibited	0	0	1	1	2	2	9	9
Wading Prohibited	0	1	2	2	3	5	12	18
Parking Closed Area	0	1	2	1	1	2	0	9
Other*	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	6
Total Violation by Month	2	9	22	23	34	49	96	182

Rueter-Hess Recreation

Reservations by Jurisdiction July 2026

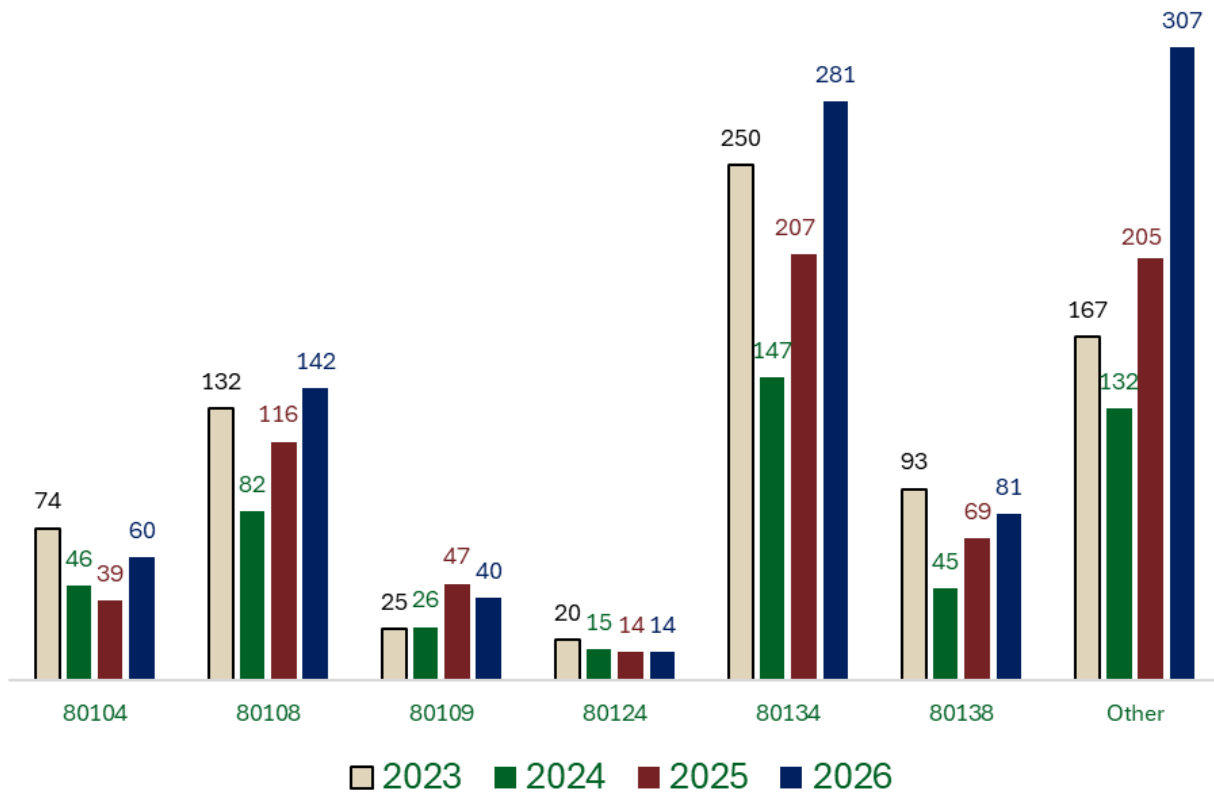


Reservations by Jurisdiction July 2026

	2023	2024	2025	2026
Castle Pines	42	99	100	78
Castle Rock	117	158	196	166
Lone Tree	11	15	23	14
Parker	179	332	407	362
Unincorporated Douglas County	18	87	110	57
Other	45	132	227	250

Rueter-Hess Recreation

Reservations by Zip Code July 2026



Reservations by Zip Code July 2026

	2023	2024	2025	2026
80104	74	46	39	60
80108	132	82	116	142
80109	25	26	47	40
80124	20	15	14	14
80134	250	147	207	281
80138	93	45	69	81
Other	167	132	205	307

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MEETING DATE: August 14, 2026

ATTACHMENTS:

Rueter-Hess Budget Update July 2026

Budget vs. Actual Activity - B.U.

Budget vs Actual Rpt(CONDENSED)

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For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2026

Description	Prior Year Actual	Prior Year Budget	Current Year Actual	Current Year Encumbrance	Adopted Budget	Amended Budget	Current Year Available	% Remaining
47100 RUETER-HESS REC OPS & MAINT								
300000 REVENUES	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
330000 INTERGOVERNMENTAL	(796,539.00)	(620,000.00)	(830,000.00)	.00	(620,000.00)	(620,000.00)	210,000.00	(33.9)
340000 CHARGES FOR SERVICES	(58,086.89)	(32,000.00)	(20,195.00)	.00	(46,000.00)	(46,000.00)	(25,805.00)	56.1
360000 INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS	(108,700.02)	(50,000.00)	(56,416.03)	.00	(50,000.00)	(50,000.00)	6,416.03	(12.8)
380000 MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES	.00	.00	(251.54)	.00	.00	.00	251.54	(100.0)
390000 OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	(250,000.00)	(250,000.00)	(124,999.98)	.00	(250,000.00)	(250,000.00)	(125,000.02)	50.0
300000 REVENUES	(1,213,325.91)	(952,000.00)	(1,031,862.55)	.00	(966,000.00)	(966,000.00)	65,862.55	(6.8)
400000 EXPENDITURES	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
410000 PERSONNEL SERVICES	544,067.55	621,315.00	268,464.30	.00	601,911.00	601,911.00	333,446.70	55.4
433000 SUPPLIES	17,646.33	20,600.00	4,922.01	.00	33,100.00	33,100.00	28,177.99	85.1
438000 CONTROLLABLE ASSETS (C.A.)	6,796.87	5,000.00	.00	.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	100.0
439000 PURCHASED SERVICES	8,638.29	15,000.00	5,799.78	.00	28,000.00	28,000.00	22,200.22	79.3
448000 BUILDING MATERIALS	.00	.00	.00	.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	100.0
449000 FIXED CHARGES	27,743.13	44,020.00	10,656.02	.00	19,515.00	19,515.00	8,858.98	45.4
471000 CAPITAL OUTLAY	206,120.00	243,000.00	52,364.60	.00	133,000.00	133,000.00	80,635.40	60.6
480000 CONTINGENCIES & RESERVES	.00	50,000.00	.00	.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	100.0
400000 EXPENDITURES	811,012.17	998,935.00	342,206.71	.00	870,526.00	870,526.00	528,319.29	60.7
47100 RUETER-HESS REC OPS & MAINT	(402,313.74)	46,935.00	(689,655.84)	.00	(95,474.00)	(95,474.00)	594,181.84	(622.3)

For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2026

Description	Prior Year Actual	Prior Year Budget	Current Year Actual	Current Year Encumbrance	Adopted Budget	Amended Budget	Current Year Available	% Remaining
850900 Fishery Management								
300000 REVENUES	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
300000 REVENUES	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
400000 EXPENDITURES	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
439000 PURCHASED SERVICES	439.40	60,000.00	20,700.00	.00	.00	.00	(20,700.00)	(100.0)
471000 CAPITAL OUTLAY	.00	.00	.00	.00	75,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00	100.0
400000 EXPENDITURES	439.40	60,000.00	20,700.00	.00	75,000.00	75,000.00	54,300.00	72.4
850900 Fishery Management	439.40	60,000.00	20,700.00	.00	75,000.00	75,000.00	54,300.00	72.4

Description	Prior Year Actual	Prior Year Budget	Current Year Actual	Current Year Encumbrance	Adopted Budget	Amended Budget	Current Year Available	% Remaining
850901 Docks								
300000 REVENUES	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
300000 REVENUES	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
400000 EXPENDITURES	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
439000 PURCHASED SERVICES	3,685.00	227,969.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
471000 CAPITAL OUTLAY	218,865.88	222,031.00	.00	.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	100.0
478000 MAJOR MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS	3,165.46	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
400000 EXPENDITURES	225,716.34	450,000.00	.00	.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	100.0
850901 Docks	225,716.34	450,000.00	.00	.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	100.0

Description	Prior Year Actual	Prior Year Budget	Current Year Actual	Current Year Encumbrance	Adopted Budget	Amended Budget	Current Year Available	% Remaining
850902 Trailhead Plan & Construction								
300000 REVENUES	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
300000 REVENUES	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
400000 EXPENDITURES	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
439000 PURCHASED SERVICES	11,000.00	11,000.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
471000 CAPITAL OUTLAY	.00	33,380.00	.00	.00	100,000.00	133,380.00	133,380.00	100.0
400000 EXPENDITURES	11,000.00	44,380.00	.00	.00	100,000.00	133,380.00	133,380.00	100.0
850902 Trailhead Plan & Construction	11,000.00	44,380.00	.00	.00	100,000.00	133,380.00	133,380.00	100.0

Budget vs. Actual Activity - B.U.

Budget vs Actual Rpt(CONDENSED)

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For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2026

Description	Prior Year Actual	Prior Year Budget	Current Year Actual	Current Year Encumbrance	Adopted Budget	Amended Budget	Current Year Available	% Remaining
850903 Entrance Improvements								
300000 REVENUES	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
330000 INTERGOVERNMENTAL	(50,000.00)	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
300000 REVENUES	(50,000.00)	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
400000 EXPENDITURES	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
439000 PURCHASED SERVICES	3,750.00	3,750.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
471000 CAPITAL OUTLAY	107,332.62	136,870.00	48,377.04	.00	.00	79,537.00	31,159.96	39.2
400000 EXPENDITURES	111,082.62	140,620.00	48,377.04	.00	.00	79,537.00	31,159.96	39.2
850903 Entrance Improvements	61,082.62	140,620.00	48,377.04	.00	.00	79,537.00	31,159.96	39.2